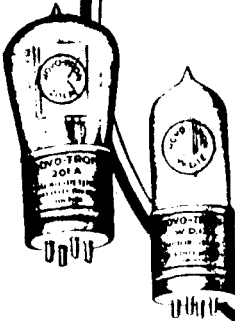


**NORTHWEST
VINTAGE RADIO
SOCIETY
CALL LETTER**

Feb. '86

Vol. 12 No. 2



Not
Just Another Radio Tube, but
THE ULTIMATE
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RADIO TUBES Price \$5

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The **CALL LETTER**, is published monthly, as the only official publication of the **Northwest Vintage Radio Society** which is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of Oregon. Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month (July and August omitted) at the Buena Vista Clubhouse in Oregon City (see page 3).

President----- Bill DeVey 635-6746
Vice President--- Jerry Talbott 649-6717
Treasurer----- Ed Charman 654-7387
Recording Secretary- Dan Howard 761-7799
Corresponding Secretary -----
Dick Karman 288-1285
Librarian----- Chuck Kibler 678-5066

FEBRUARY

DATE : February 8th, 1986
TIME : 10:00 AM
PLACE : Buena Vista Clubhouse
ADDRESS : 16th & Jackson Streets
Oregon City, Oregon

Last Call! The February Meeting is the last chance to renew your membership and be included in the 1986 trading roster. Renewals handled after February 8th will not allow time for your information to be included in the roster. (see page 16)

Old business will consist largely of committee reports, a recommended change in the date of the fall swap meet and a review of the calendar for the coming year (see page 15).

New business is BYOB ... that's Bring Your Own Business. At press time, there are very few items in the "new business" category.

Before and after the meeting will be a display of literature, advertising and books at the clubhouse. All members are urged to bring something for display. If you have a "bad back" then this time you can still bring something "up the hill".



ATMOSPHERICA

By J

"In-Verse Feedback"

I traded off my old "Regen",
For a TRF, By Jing
Then along came the Neutrodyne,
To obsolete the thing!

So I got a Neutrodyne,
And was happy as a coot;
Along came the Super-het,
To supersede the Nute.

So I gets a Super-het
With new batteries, when
A.C. Tubes were introduced;
Well, here we go again!

I possessed an A.C. SUPER,
A beautiful Hi-Boy set;
Everyone said "it's here to stay..."
But we weren't finished yet.

The Cathedral beat out my Hi-Boy,
A Tombstone edged out the Cath.,
Then we got a PLASTIC crop
To further boost our wrath.....

Now Solid State has reared its head
I've wasted a pile of dough.
I've reached a sound conclusion:
TO HELL WITH RADIO !

From the Tom James Collection
Originally from February 1976

You may remember seeing this ATMOSPHERICA.
It compliments Herb Brams article on page 8,
so I trust you'll enjoy it again.

A U C T I O N A C T I V I T Y

PLEASE contact the NWVRS Treasurer if you were one of the sellers at the January Auction, who forgot to donate 5% of the final bid on your items to the treasury.

The January Auction saw over 200 items "go to the block". Everything ranging from spare parts to very attractive sets were sold. A number of pieces of test equipment were bid on & some of the most popular items included literature from the Don Iverson collection and battery sets from the Al Shadduck collection.

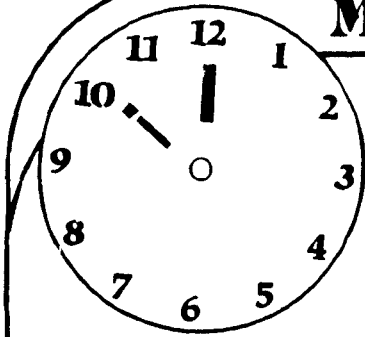
The membership should thank auctioneer Bill DeVey and Art Redman for an entertaining meeting & a very enjoyable time.

Be Sure not to miss the next auction, currently scheduled for the September meeting.

CLUBHOUSE UPDATE

No news may not be good news. The Buena Vista Civic Club has again postponed any action on the disposition of the clubhouse. This most recent delay is due to a lack of communications from the city of Oregon City. President Bill DeVey and Corresponding Secretary Dick Karman will try to keep abreast of new developments.

Meeting Minutes



The January 11, 1986 meeting was called to order by outgoing Pres. Dick Karman at 10:10 am. & was turned over to our new President Bill Devey.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved as printed in the **CALL LETTER**. The treasurer's report was given and accepted. The current balance in the treasury is \$519.96.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Frank Plaisted, Hugh Rankin, & George Rudolph were back with us this meeting, each recovering from illness.

OLD BUSINESS:

The societies January 18th Banquet was discussed.

Dick Karman has been in contact with the Buena Vista Civic Club. It appears that a decision on the fate of the Civic club & the clubhouse may be made before the February meeting. The members in attendance voted to empower the officers to make the necessary decisions if the clubhouse is offered prior to the next meeting.

On two separate motions the members voted to dispense with the July & August meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Contest committee circulated a tentative contest schedule for 1986. A copy of which will be published in the February **CALL LETTER**.

A motion was made & passed to purchase a copy of the centennial issue of the I.E.E.E. Transactions for our library. It appears to be a good source of information on the development of radio.

A motion was defeated to purchase a copy of Plastics, a reference book on plastic radios.

Leads and needs were given & the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.

The Society's auction took place immediately following the meeting with a considerable amount of "vintage radio" gear changing hands.

Dan Howard,
Secretary

=====



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TYPES OF RADIOS

By Herb Brams

The earliest radio receivers (from the 1890's to the early 1900's) consisted of tuning circuits & a detector. Various detectors were used, such as the electrolytic detector, the magnetic detector, the coherer, and the crystal detector. The crystal detector, discovered in 1904, was particularly simple, efficient and inexpensive. Thus for many years crystal set radios were common. The vacuum tube was invented in 1906, but because of its initial high cost, low amplification, and erratic performance, tube-type radios did not immediately become common. Only with the discovery of regeneration in 1913 is the era of tube-type radios really begin.

From about 1913 until the early 1920's regenerative sets were common. In this type of receiver part of the radio signal amplified by a tube was fed back to the input of the tube to reinforce the incoming signal. This greatly increased the sensitivity and selectivity of the set, but the amount of signal fed back that gave optimum reception was critical and the correct adjustment was difficult to obtain. Moreover, the feedback had to be readjusted for each station tuned in. However, regenerative sets offered good sensitivity and selectivity with a minimum of parts.

In the early and mid-1920's regenerative receivers were superseded by tuned radio frequency (TRF) sets. In these sets the incoming signal was amplified by a tube and the amplified signal was transferred to a second tube where it was amplified further. The amplified signal from the second tube was transferred to a third tube and amplified still more. In this way signal strength was built up through several stages. TRF sets were more stable than regenerative sets & easier to operate but they were more complex and so were

relatively expensive. Also, amplified signals sometimes leaked back to the first stages causing erratic performance or uncontrollable squealing and howling. In some TRF sets (reflex sets) the audio (sound) signal was fed back and amplified by tubes that normally amplified radio-frequency signals so that these tubes did double duty. This reduced the number of tubes required and so made the set less expensive but the performance of reflex sets was no better than that of the usual TRF type. Also, the combination of the 2 signals often overloaded the tubes. As a result, reflex sets never became very common.

In the mid-1920's the neutrodyne set was developed. This was a TRF type in which part of the signal from the output of the tube was fed back to the input of the tube to oppose the feedback of signal that occurred within the tube itself. This internal feedback was responsible to a large extent for the squealing and howling that could occur in TRF receivers. Neutrodyne sets were good performers and were the prevalent type in the late 1920's.

In the early 1930's TRF-type sets were superseded by superhetrodyne radios. In these sets signals tuned in were converted to a single, lower frequency before amplification & detection. the superhetrodyne receiver was superior to all previous types in sensitivity, selectivity, and stability. Moreover, these characteristics were uniform across the entire tuning band. By the mid-1930's the superhetrodyne had replaced all other types of radios. It remains the standard circuit used in radio to this day.

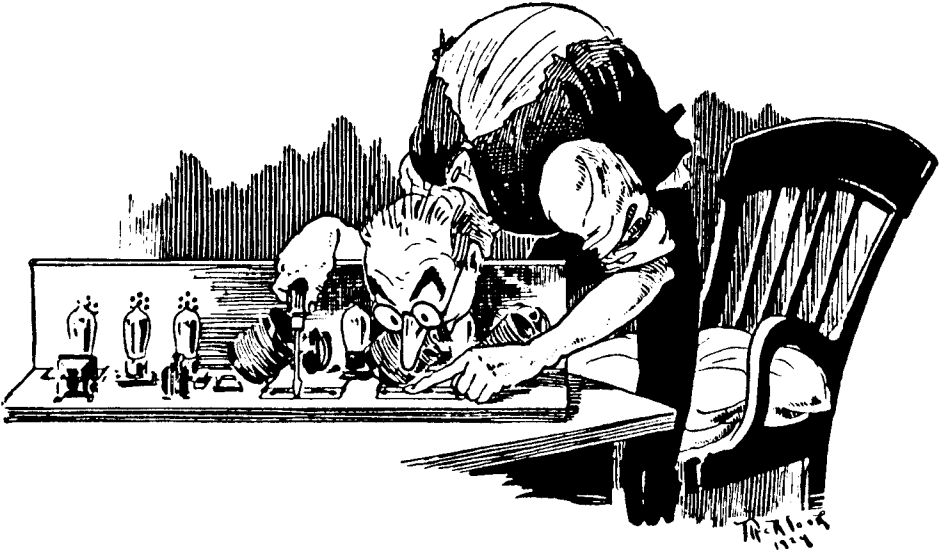
An Evening At the Bistro

Ten members and their companions met at the Butcher's Bistro in the Aloha Mall. It was the most enjoyable evening your editor has had with members of the Society in recent memory.

The success of the evening is to the credit of Vice President Jerry Talbott. Jerry has been planning the banquet and did what was necessary to help all of us enjoy it.

In addition to good food & a pleasant time to get to know others better, the video tape presentation was a time to remember radio and years gone by.

The Hunchback of Neurodyne



The Hunchback of Neurodyne! A human distortion from ceaseless work. Dumb as to radio. Blind to the outside world. Hard-hearted and cynical from disappointments, but with the patience of a veteran fisherman.

AC·CES·SION /ik-'sesh-ən, ak-/

1. acquisition of additional property
 2. to record in order of acquisition
-

Dick Howard: OZARKA Model 90 Cathedral

Dan Howard: RADIOLA Model R-14

Jerry Talbott: '37 Stewart-Warner "Deco"
'39 Emerson 2 tube mini CF-255
'41 Sears Battery Plastic radio

Jim Mason: Eveready Mod 2 Early AC set
in a tin box.

Many many members "acquired" a lot of equipment, radios and literature at the January Auction. Your Editor is especially proud of some Radio & Electric Experimenter magazines from the late teens.

=====
A Part of Radio Passing away.

On January 24th Gordon MacRae died of cancer. Mr. MacRae was best known in his radio career as the star of the Railroad hour. The show had nothing to do with railroads but took it's name from it's sponsor, The Association of American Railroads. Gordon MacRae was always the male lead, and the show was considered to have offered "the best operettas on the air".

MacRae is remembered by movie goers as "Curly" in the musical "Oklahoma".

He could also often be heard on the Texaco Star Theater, and the Bell Telephone Hour.

FOR SALE:

Emerson Table radio Mod. DP-332 \$20; RCA pushbutton Model 96T3 \$20; Horn for A-K model "L" horn speaker \$20. Ron Evans
206-333-6102

AK 20 Big Box looks great \$50; Nobillitt Sparks Mod 1127, 11 tubes, 2 chassis, 2 speakers, biamplication, triple tuned IF's \$75 Norm Braithwaite, 206-782-4864
4415 Greenwood Ave N. Seattle WA 98103

1925 Radiola 26 portable, missing loop & speaker \$75 John Schneider 1718 NE 98th Street, Seattle, WA 98115, 206-527-3198

Telefunken console, 12 tubes, stereo, 8 speakers, AM-FM-SW \$55; Blaupunkt table radio plastic \$30; RCA Tuner "RA" 1922 in home brew cabinet \$35; all of these available for trade. Max Kaplan, 8412 150TH ST NW ,GIG HARBOR , WA 98335 206-851-4187.

Allied AX-190 solid state ham receiver, 80-10 plus CB \$70; '50s RCA transocianic; EICO 950B Capacitor tester \$15; Regency TR-1 and other early transistor radios. Hugh Miller, 11206 First Northeast, Seattle, WA 98125, 206-365-3684, or 206-451-5334, evenings.

WANTED:

Pre-50's TVs; Radiola IV; Smokerette, Peter Pan Radio; Mickey Mouse Radio; Halicrafter mod.S-38B; Emerson AU-190, Sparton mod. 1466; art deco radios, colored plastic, mirror glass, etc. KEN KORHONEN 4022 41ST AVE SW SEATTLE , WA 98116 206-932-9363, Work-206-345-1316

Philco 90 cabinet; Philco 71 dial system, any parts or cabinet for Zenith Stratosphere model 1000Z (25 tube) ART CORBUS, 5704 11TH AVE NW, SEATTLE , WA 98107 206-783-6151

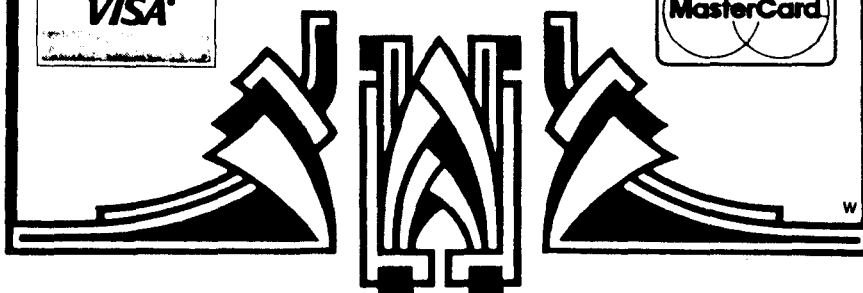
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Sunday Noon To 4:00 P.M.

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GARY W. STELLER, OWNER



Swap Shop

WANTED: Your Renewal memberships.
\$15.00 for the new year. Please get
your renewal to Ed Charman at or
before the February meeting. (see
page 16)

Wanted: RARE or EARLY tubes; Power
transformer for Majestic "90"
C.E. Clutter 14330 NE Fremont Ct.
Portland, Or 97230 503-254-9296

For Sale: Early Hammarlund Super-pro
with good power supply. \$45.00
Frank Plaisted, Rt 3 Box 478
Hillsboro, Or 97123 503-647-2891

FOR SALE: Atwater Kent Model 10A
Breadboard. Best offer over \$250
James Mason, 90 NW 150th Ave.
Beaverton, Or 97006 503-644-2343

FOR SALE: Slant faced General Electric
Table Set, w/thumb dial tuning. \$5
Miscellaneous Radio and TV tubes...
(over 600 to choose from) 5 for \$1
Dick Karman, 2515 NE 37th Ave.
Portland, Or, 97212 503-288-1285

WANTED: Chassis with Good Power
transformer for RCA mod R-78
James Mason, 90 NW 150th Ave.
Beaverton, Or 97006 503-644-2343

WANTED: ideas on possible "new meeting
place" should the Clubhouse be lost
in "the shuffle".-- Contact NWVRS
officers (listed on page 2).

February:

Saturday the 8th
Literature & Advertising display
Sunday the 16th
The Salem Flea Market Featuring
Vintage Radios and Phonographs

March:

Saturday the 8th
Speaker "Beauty" Contest and
Headset display. 1st, 2nd & 3rd
place ribbons will be awarded.

April:

Saturday the 12th
Early Transistor radio display

May:

Saturday the 10th
The Spring Swap Meet

June:

Saturday the 14th
Vacuum Tube Display
"70 years to choose from"

=====
The July and August meetings have been
deleted by vote of the membership.

July:

Sunday the 20th
The Forest Grove concourse show

August:

Tentative Plans for a picnic at
at Alpenrose.

=====
September:

Saturday the 13th
The Fall Equipment Auction

October:

Saturday the 11th
The annual Crystal set contest
Ribbons will be awarded

November:

Saturday the 8th
The Fall Swap Meet

December:

Saturday the 13th
The Society's Christmas Party

NORTHWEST VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY

Regular membership \$15.00

Associate Membership \$12.00

Associate memberships are accepted
from persons outside commuting distance
of the Portland Metropolitan area.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE _____

PHONE _____

VOCATION _____

SPECIAL INTERESTS _____

Please pay promptly !

Mail membership information and dues to
the **Northwest Vintage Radio Society**
P.O. Box 02379, Portland Oregon, 97202

Membership includes monthly newsletters,
ten monthly meetings (all except July &
August), two swap meets and two auctions
each year, as well as a trading roster
of members, and unlimited "unclassified"
ads in the **CALL LETTER**.

Check here if you **don't** wish to be
included in the 1986 trading/membership
roster..